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(71) Applicant: **Bayer Corporation**  
**Pittsburgh, PA 15205 (US)**

(72) Inventors:  
• **Kheiri, Mohammad A.**  
**Elkhart, IN 46514 (US)**  
• **Ruggiero, Joseph E.**  
**Goshen, IN 46526 (US)**  
• **Bernstein, Gary H.**  
**Granger, IN 46530 (US)**

(74) Representative: **Burkert, Frank et al**  
**Bayer AG, Konzernbereich RP Patente und**  
**Lizenzen**  
**51368 Leverkusen (DE)**

(54) **Electronic lancing device**

(57) It has been discovered that the use of a substantially free-standing voice coil (520,1030) within a lancing device (5) in coordination and combination with a stationary magnet (50) and electronic circuit (40) renders a much improved lancing device. The minimal weight of the free standing voice coil and the attractive forces of the magnet allow the battery-powered electronic circuit to maintain excellent control over the advancement and retraction of a lancet (30). When the electronic lancing device (5) is initiated by a user, the

voltage source (Vdd) within the electronic lancing device provides sufficient current through the voice coil such that the coil and lancet are repulsed from the magnet and propelled into the puncture site. The voltage source subsequently reverses the current through the voice coil to supply sufficient attractive current through the voice coil such that the dwell time of the lancet is minimized and the lancet is retracted from the puncture site and pulled toward the magnet within the housing (10) of the electronic lancing device.



European Patent  
Office

# PARTIAL EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number

which under Rule 45 of the European Patent Convention shall be considered, for the purposes of subsequent proceedings, as the European search report

EP 00 12 3450

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.Cl.7)
A	FR 2 555 432 A (FRANCESCHI CLAUDE) 31 May 1985 (1985-05-31) * page 2, line 17 - line 24 *	1-8	A61B5/15
A	EP 0 798 004 A (WAGNER WOLFGANG DR MED) 1 October 1997 (1997-10-01) * column 19, line 31 - line 47 * * column 23, line 30 - line 47; figures 2, 10 *	1-8	
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.7)
			A61B
INCOMPLETE SEARCH			
<p>The Search Division considers that the present application, or one or more of its claims, does/do not comply with the EPC to such an extent that a meaningful search into the state of the art cannot be carried out, or can only be carried out partially, for these claims.</p> <p>Claims searched completely :</p> <p>1-8</p> <p>Claims searched incompletely :</p> <p>Claims not searched :</p> <p>9-12</p> <p>Reason for the limitation of the search:</p> <p>Article 52 (4) EPC - Diagnostic method practised on the human or animal body and method for treatment of the human or animal body by surgery</p>			
Place of search		Date of completion of the search	Examiner
THE HAGUE		14 November 2001	Manschot, J
<p>CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS</p> <p>X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document</p> <p>T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons &amp; : member of the same patent family, corresponding document</p>			

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**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT  
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This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned European search report. The members are as contained in the European Patent Office EDP file on  
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